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title: Regarding problems faced by students of Minority Communities in getting Merit-cum-Means Scholarship.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA) : The Merit-cum-Means scholarship for minority students studying in Professional and Technical courses under the Ministry of Minority affairs has not been distributed to all eligible students in states like Kerala. The scholarship is aimed at providing subsistence financial support for minority students in the country. As per the reports during 2013-14 academic year, 590 students in Kerala have not received their renewed scholarship amount. During 2014-15, 1158 students have not received their scholarship. Moreover there are many complaints regarding the newly introduced National Scholarship Web Portal. Students doing BSC Nursing cannot select their duration of course, i.e. four years, during online application. They are forced to select the duration as three years and consequently their applications are considered for Post Matric Scholarship instead of Merit-cum-Means Scholarship. These issues demand urgent intervention from the Government.